

Remarks

Claims 1-53 are pending. Claims 17-27 are rejected. Claims 1-16, and 28-53 are withdrawn.

Summary of Interview

On July 31, 2007, the Examiner and Applicant's attorney had a telephonic interview. In the interview, Applicant pointed out that the present invention addresses skin damages by mechanisms, e.g., aging, inflammation, and UV damages, that are **fundamentally different from** what is described by prior art, which is drawn to reducing scarring in a wound skin by reducing excessive extracellular matrix accumulation. Applicant further pointed out that the range of concentration of proteoglycan as defined in the claims addresses skin damages by these mechanisms.

The Examiner agreed that the skin damages as described in the instant application are different from what is described in the cited reference. She pointed out that the lower limit of the concentration of proteoglycan as defined in the claims appears to be too low, however.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 23-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant believes these rejections are moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 17-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over WO 93/09800 A1 by Ruoslahti et al. ("Ruoslahti").

Claim 17 defines a cosmetic, pharmaceutical, or dermatological skin care composition that promotes the regeneration of skin of a mammal where the skin is absent a dermal wound. The composition comprises a proteoglycan compound from **up to about 10% by weight of the total composition**. The proteoglycan can be fibromodulin (FM), lumican, decorin, biglycan, or

combinations thereof. In contrast, WO 800 describes using decorin or a functional equivalent of decorin for reducing scarring in a dermal wound. WO 800 does not describe or teach a composition comprising a proteoglycan up to about 10% by weight of the total composition that is effective for skin generation in a skin damaged by skin inflammation, skin pigmentation, dermal collagen disorganization, and aging.

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that the concentration of the proteoglycan is merely an optimization of the composition described in Ruoslahti and does not have any patentability weight. As described in the Summary of Interview, above, Applicant discussed the fundamental difference between Ruoslahti and the claimed subject matter in the interview. Applicant believes the amendment to the claims has addressed the Examiner's concerns. Claim 17 is now non-obvious over Ruoslahti under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 18-27 depend from claim 17 and are non-obvious over Ruoslahti under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) for at least the same reason. In addition, each of claims 23-27 requires the composition defined therein to include features: (a) from about 0.1% to about 80% by weight of a cell lysate, extract, or media enriched with the proteoglycan compound; (b) from about 0.1% to about 10% by weight of hyaluronic acid; (c) from about 0.000001% to about 10% by weight of at least one additional skin care agent; and (d) a carrier selected from the group consisting of a dermatologically acceptable carrier, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, a vesicular delivery system, and combinations thereof. Ruoslahti does not describe or teach any these (a)-(d) features. Therefore, aside from their dependency from claim 17, claims 23-27 are additionally allowable over Ruoslahti under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).


The undersigned authorizes the examiner to charge any fees that may be required or credit of any overpayment to be made to Deposit Account No. 07-1850.

CONCLUSION

Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. **If the Examiner has any suggestions or amendments to the claims to place the claims in condition for allowance, applicant would prefer a telephone call to the undersigned attorney for approval of an Examiner's amendment.** If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (415) 393-9885.

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